

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration of this application, as amended.

This Amendment addresses the issues outstanding from the final Office Action dated November 3, 2006.

Claims 11-14, 16-19, 21-23, 25-27, 29-32 and 34-37 are pending. Claims 1-10, 15, 20, 24, 28 and 33 were previously cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. By this Amendment, Claims 11 and 29 have been amended to more particularly recite certain features of Applicants' invention as discussed below.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 11-14, 16-19, 21-23, 25-27, 29-32 and 34-37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 5,913,063 to McGurrin et al. ("McGurrin"). Without acceding to the outstanding rejections, Claims 11 and 29 have been amended to more particularly recite certain distinctive features of Applicant's invention.

In particular, independent Claims 11 and 29 now recite, *inter alia*, that subsequent modifications to the generic attribute class or the generic method class are not propagated to the independent copy. It is apparent that McGurrin does not teach or suggest at least this feature of Claims 11 and 29.

For example, the disclosure of McGurrin relied upon in the Office Action teaches that in McGurrin's method, a FORM FRAME2 (530) is created as a subclass of FORM FRAME1 (512). *See* McGurrin, col. 9, lines 28-31; Fig. 6. It is apparent that McGurrin's parent class cannot be modified without also affecting his child class. In particular, McGurrin teaches:

“[a]s a subclass of object class FORM FRAME 1 (512), object class FORM FRAME2 (530) automatically and instantly inherits all of the

attributes of object class FORM FRAME1 (512). Consequently, any changes to the attributes of the object class FORM FRAME 1 (512) are automatically propagated to object class FORM FRAME2 (530).”

McGurrin, col. 9, lines 32-39.

Thus, in McGurrin’s object class FORM FRAME2 (530) that is a subclass of object class FORM FRAME1 (512), “any changes to the attributes of the object class FORM FRAME 1 (512) are automatically propagated to object class FORM FRAME2 (530).” Therefore, McGurrin does not teach or suggest that subsequent modifications to the generic attribute class or the generic method class are not propagated to the independent copy, as recited in Claims 11 and 29.

For at least this reason, Applicant respectfully submits that independent Claims 11 and 29, and their respective dependents, distinguish patentably from the applied prior art.

Moreover, Claims 11 and 29 recite that an instance of a generic attribute class and an instance of a generic method class are included in the copy of the entire tree of the class with the instance of the generic method class including an instance of a generic parameter class. McGurrin does not disclose any comparable feature corresponding to Applicants’ generic attribute class, generic method class, and generic parameter class as recited in Claims 11 and 29.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that this application is in condition for allowance. A prompt Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

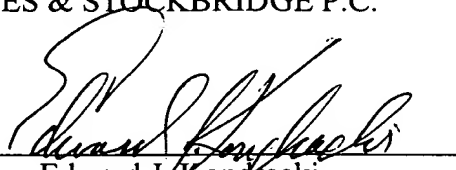
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1165 (T2147-906522) any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account. If any extension of time

is required in connection with the filing of this paper and has not been separately requested, such extension is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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